Sunday School Lesson

LESSON II

PETER COMMENDED AND REBUKED

Matthew 16: 13-25

Golden Text—Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. — Matt. 16: 16.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time.—In the third period of the Galilean ministry, autumn, A.D. 29.

Place.—At or near Caeserea Philippi, in the northern part of Galilee, south of the foot-hills of Mt. Hermon.

A year and one half, which is almost one half of the entire period of our Lord's public ministry, has elapsed between the events of our last lesson and the epochal event which we are about to study in this lesson.

13. Now when Jesus came into the parts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Who do men say that the Son of man is? After months spent in teaching the apostles about his person and mission he gives them a choice, a test concerning the explanation of it all. It has been probably two years since he chose them as apostles. By this time they ought to know their own minds.

14. And they said, Some say John the Baptist; some, Elijah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.

15. He saith unto them, But who say ye that I am? This was a decisive moment in which the separation of the New Testament church from the Old Testament theocracy was to be made.

Peter's Great Confession

Matt. 16: 16. 16. And Simon Peter answered and said. Peter was always the spokesman of the twelve disciples. Thou art the Christ. "Christ", is the Greek synonym for the Hebrew word "Messiah". All those of the Old Covenant knew that when the Messiah would come peace would reign, justice would prevail, the wilderness would be changed into a garden, wars would cease, there would be no darkness or night. The Son of the living God. Peter in these words goes even beyond ascribing Messiahship to Jesus; he considers him to be the very Son of God.

Divine Revelation

Matt. 16: 17-20. 17. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jonah: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father who is in heaven. The Lord means that recognition of his Messiahship and Sonship is not brought about by human logic, but that it is a divine working in the human heart and mind, a work of revelation, by which such an acknowledgment is made.

18. And I also say unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock. The word "Peter" in Greek is the word "petros," meaning "the rock". I will build my church. We should notice that Christ declares he will be the one who will build the church. Jesus is the architect, and the verb suggests the continued activity of the living Christ in giving out his design.

The foundation of the church is made up of the apostles and prophets, Christ himself being the chief corner-stone. (Eph. 2: 20). What the Lord really meant is that not upon Peter but upon this confession of Peter concerning the person of Christ he would build his church. And the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. The passage implies conflict with the kingdom of evil and victory over it; but its leading thought is the triumph of life over death, of the kingdom of the resurrection over the usurped reign of the king of Hades.

Keys to the Kingdom

10. I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. The keys of the kingdom of heaven are first of all the gospel of salvation through Jesus Christ. By this means men are admitted into the kingdom. He was conferring power for saving and not for barring from salvation.

20. Then charged he the disciples that they should tell no man that he was the Christ. He now desired that he should move on and finish his work on the earth, dying, rising again from the dead, and ascending into heaven, before the disciples should go out and preach Christ; then men would fully know what receiving Christ meant.

Matt. 15: 21-25. From that time began Jesus to show unto his disciples, that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and the third day be raised up. Jesus was not, as some men claim, taken unawares and put to death. He knew from the beginning what would be his experience for he came definitely to die for us.

22. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall never be unto thee. This word was a word of love.

23. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art a stumbling-block unto me: for thou mindest not the things of God, but the things of men.

24. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. 25. For whosoever would save his life shall lose it: and whosoever shall lose his life for my sake shall find it. There is no discipleship without self-denial both in the easier form of starving passions and desires, and in the harder of yielding up the will, and letting his will supplant ours.

Occupants of Canada's Most Northerly Outpost

Two R.C.M.P. officers enjoyed a large and appetizing Christmas dinner this year in company with their four fellow-occupants (Eskimos) of Craig Harbor, Ellesmere Island, Canada's most northerly outpost. Ptarmigan replaced turkey on the menu and all Christmas greetings arrived by mail. Three of the Eskimos appear in the top photo. Below you see Lance-Corporal R. W. Hamilton, of the R.C.M.P. with the fourth Eskimo. No mail will arrive at Craig Harbor till next summer.

Ontario Cheese Production Up

But Total Cheddar Output For Canada in 1938 is Less Than Previous Year

The quantity of Cheddar Cheese manufactured in Ontario in November was reported at 4,998,053 pounds as against 3,625,323 pounds in November, 1937, a gain of 1,373,000 pounds or 38 per cent. Production for the first 11 months, however, is considerably below the level of a year ago, the total being 83,113,349 pounds this season, as compared with 91,456,962 pounds a year ago.

Creamery butter output totaled 5,103,206 pounds in November, and was again higher than in the corresponding month of 1937. The increase amounted to 398,000 lbs. or 8 per cent. Total production for the first 11 months of 1938 is now estimated at 83,281,303 lbs., the highest on record, and compares with 77,023,660 pounds in the first 11 months of 1937.

Less Cheese Made

The trend in recent years in Canada has been toward greatly expanding butter production and reducing the quantity of cheese manufactured. That a lesser decline in cheese output would have been to the advantage of the dairying industry is now generally conceded, and efforts to build up cheese production and regain former export volume are considered by many as most desirable.

Germany has fixed a 600,000-pound quota on Quebec eels that will not be filled before next March. To Sweden and Belgium smaller shipments are made, although the Belgians' national dish is a preparation of baked eel.

Small hats with pleated fan effect in front promise to become popular in Paris.

Prognosticator Sees Cold Spell

FORT ERIE, Ont. — They scoffed at William Henry Wintmute, Bertie Township farmer, last September when he predicted that this autumn would be the mildest in years, but he had the last laugh when he showed the scoffers violets and lilacs blooming on his farm in December.

Spurred on by his success, Farmer Wintmute has now made his prediction for the next three months, which, he said, will be cold. He bases his predictions on the condition and location of milts in hogs—a system he claims is infallible.

Too Little Beef, Too Many Legs

Department of Agriculture Official Says Canadian Cattle Have Not Been Fed Nor Fattened Up Enough For Market

Too little beef on too many legs has been on big trouble with the Canadian cattle industry, in the judgment of A. M. Shaw, Ottawa director of markets for the Dominion Department of Agriculture.

There has been insufficient grain fed to Canadian cattle to provide "a reasonable level of beef quality or a sufficient regular supply of grain-finished cattle to meet the best demands of the domestic and export trade," Mr. Shaw declared in a paper before the prairie markets conference.

Feed Them More Grain

He informed the conference, that is studying the lack of markets for western farm produce, that a gerat deal more grain could be consumed by fewer cattle to the advantage of the industry. An increase in cattle numbers was not altogether desirable and certainly not necessary to a substntial increase in grain consumption, he said.

Fatten Up Your Horse For Sale

It's a Good Plan to Add a Few Hundred Pounds to the Animal

In fitting horses for Spring work it may not be necessary to fatten them, or burden them, so to speak, with excessive fat, but when it comes to courting a sale at a remunerative price, it is a good plan to add a couple of hundred pounds to the animal. Extra fat on a horse will not deter him from engaging in heavy work, and it is just as well to have the animal in a condition that will always command the best market.

Fetches Better Price

A highly finished animal may not always be the fittest for immediate hard labor, but it is plainly evident, at horse sales, that horses in full fleshed condition command better prices. Buyers will bid for flesh, and it is daily demonstrated that it does not pay to offer unfitted animals for sale. Bidders at a sale will run up the price of an animal that is slick and well covered. It is therefore the business of the seller to prepare his offering to suit the buying public.

Are You Listening?

By FREDDIE TEE

YEAR'S LEADING NEWS FIGURES

Lowell Thomas, Edwin C. Hill and Walter Winchell, NBC news commentators, put their heads together at the National Broadcasting Company to pick the ten leading news personalities of 1938. These three veteran reporters and commentators decided that the ten big news makers of the year were nine men and a horse. Here is their list:

1. Adolf Hitler
2. Neville Chamberlain
3. Franklin D. Roosevelt
4. Douglas Corrigan
5. Pope Pius
6. Thomas E. Dewey
7. Seabiscuit
8. Alfred P. Sloan, Jr.
9. Walt Disney
10. Henry Armstrong

PIANO BEST BACKGROUND

If you want to be a composer, take up the piano!

"The pianist has a head start on players of other instruments as far as composing music is concerned," says the famous "King of Jazz" — Paul Whiteman, whose program is heard over CBS every Wednesday night. To prove it, he cites the following composers: Ferde Grofe, for instance, earned his first claim to fame as the original pianist in the Whiteman Orchestra. Duke Ellington is one of the top pianists of his race. CBS's Walter Gross is considered one of America's ace classical and swing keyboard masters. It was Gross who played Gershwin's difficult "Concerto in F" in Whiteman's all-Gershwin concert over CBS last summer. If you go back into musical history," says Whiteman, "you will find that nearly all composers played the piano. It is more natural for a pianist to compose than, say a violinist, because the pianist has to know his harmonies perfectly — and the knowledge of harmony is the foundation of creative writing."

OLD COUNTRY PROGRAMS

Owners of Rogers, DeForest Crosley and Majestic radio sets, prior to the new "Spread-Band" 1939 models, cannot conceive of the improved and satisfactory reception which these new models bring in from the Old Country. It is a simple matter now to listen to and enjoy the news broadcast from London, England, just as though it was a nearby station. Every person interested in hearing programs from the Old Country should be sure to go to their nearest DeForest Crosley, Majestic or Rogers dealer and ask for a demonstration of the marvellous "short-wave" reception on these models.

Sanctuary

There is a land of dreams
Wherein soft desires
Burn fragrant fires,
Where the bright thought gleams.

And the mind can retrace
On swift, impassioned feet
The path of Memory, sweet
With perfumed petals of a hallowed place.

There, oh there only, can we win
Our peace at last,
Alone with the Past
And dreaming therein.

—Eileen Fifer, in Poetry of Today.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

THE penguin is a bird of paradoxes. Its feathers resemble scales. It has wings, but does not fly, using these appendages for swimming. On land, it walks erect, or slides over the ice on its stomach.

NEXT: How many different species of native trees has North America?

Chinese Barricade

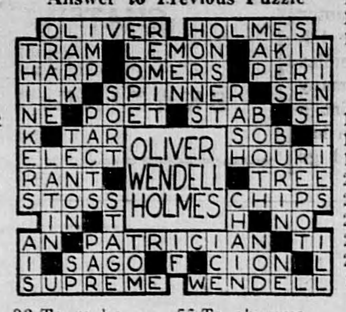
HORIZONTAL

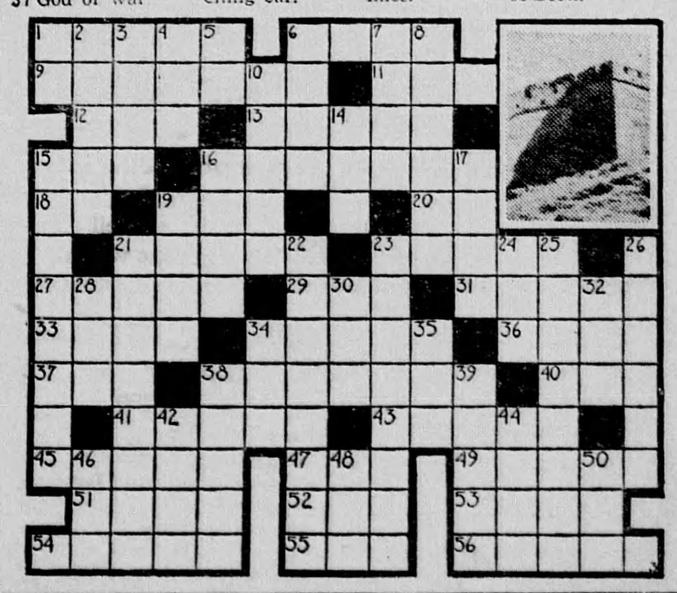
1, 6 Lengthy man-made barricade, —— —— of China.
9 Less reluctant
11 Intention.
12 Away.
13 Flax derivative.
15 Moor.
16 Befalls.
18 Railroad.
19 Third-rate actor.
20 Form of "be."
21 It is 2550 —— long.
23 Vertical.
27 Ingenuous.
29 Tea.
31 Slow (music).
33 Rubber wheel pad.
34 It was built in the —— century B. C.
36 Needy.
37 God of war
38 To make ready.
40 Circle part.
41 To maintain.
43 Council.
45 Successive relief supply.
47 Prophet.
49 Inclination.
51 Proverb.
52 To soak flax.
53 Otherwise.
54 Loom slackening bar.
55 To observe.
56 Fixed courses of study.

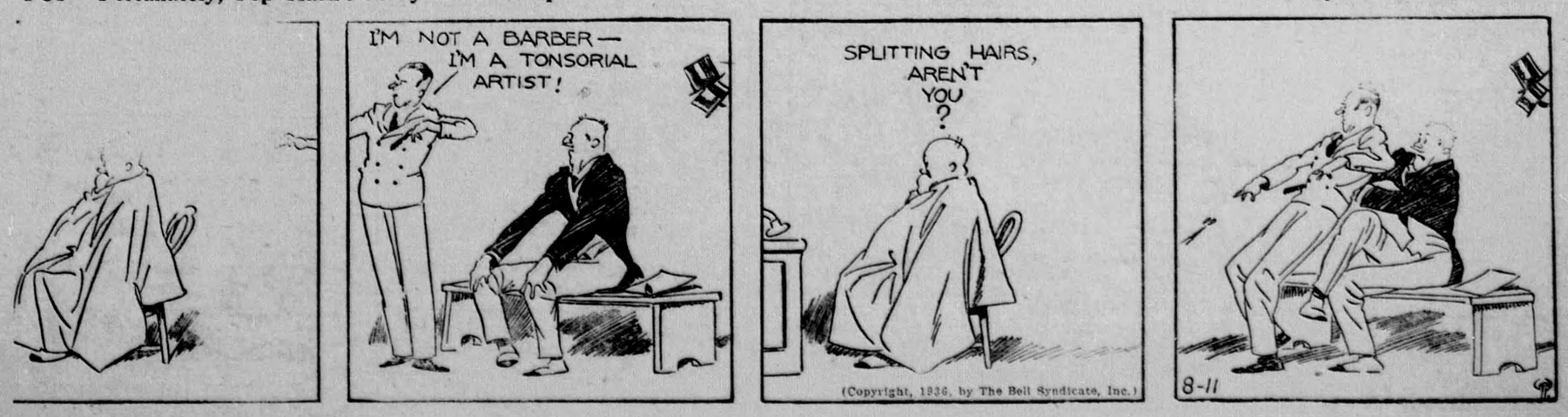
VERTICAL

1 Grain.
2 To ascribe.
3 To merit.
4 Stir.
5 Musical note.
6 Written document.
7 Deposited.
8 Composed of lines.
10 Type of fig.
14 Frost bite.
15 It extends along the Northern —— of China
16 Bundle.
17 Bad soft coal.
19 Bees' home.
21 Marvels.
22 Plotters.
23 Sycophant.
24 Chart.
25 Widest.
26 It was built by —— labor
28 Ozone.
30 Side bone.
32 Drone bee.
34 Three.
35 Arid.
38 One that pays
39 To come in.
42 To bail.
44 Part of a shaft.
46 Epoch.
48 Sheltered place.
50 Born.

Answer to Previous Puzzle





POP—Fortunately, Pop Hasn't Many Hairs to Split

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